

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9375

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12493

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN PORTUGAL

REF: LISBON 2027

1. APROPOS OF COMMENTS BY FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES ON PORTUGUESE DESIRE TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA, COUNSELLOR OF YUGOSLAV EMBASSY HERE TELLS US BELGRADE IS SENDING TEAM OF JOURNALISTS TO PORTUGAL ON FACT FINDING MISSION. YUGOSLAV COUNSELLOR WAS QUITE INTERESTED IN OUR ASSESSMENT OF EVENTS IN PORTUGAL, ASKING IN PARTICULAR WHETHER WE WERE CONCERNED OVER COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT. WE HAD IMPRESSION HE WAS WORKING FROM BROAD INSTRUCTION TO REPORT ATTITUDES TOWARD NEW PORTUGUESE REGIME.

2. IN ABSENCE SPECIFIC GUIDANCE, WE REPLIED SIMPLY THAT WE WERE FOLLOWING SITUATION CLOSELY AND ADDED, ON PERSONAL BASIS, THAT WE DID NOT SEE CAUSE FOR CONCERN IN WHAT WAS ESSENTIALLY PORTUGUESE INTERNAL AFFAIR. HE ASKED WHETHER COMMUNIST PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT JEOPARDIZE PORTUGAL'S NATO STATUS, TO
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WHICH WE RECALLED THAT THIS HAD NOT BEEN THE CASE WITH

ICELAND A FEW YEARS AGO. WHEN WE ASKED WHETHER THE YUGOSLAVS WERE SOLICITING A NEW RECRUIT FOR THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, THE COUNSELLOR REPLIED THAT THIS HARDLY SEEMED TO BE A REALISTIC POSSIBILITY IN VIEW OF PORTUGAL'S APPARENT INTENTION TO MAINTAIN ITS NATO TIES.
STONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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